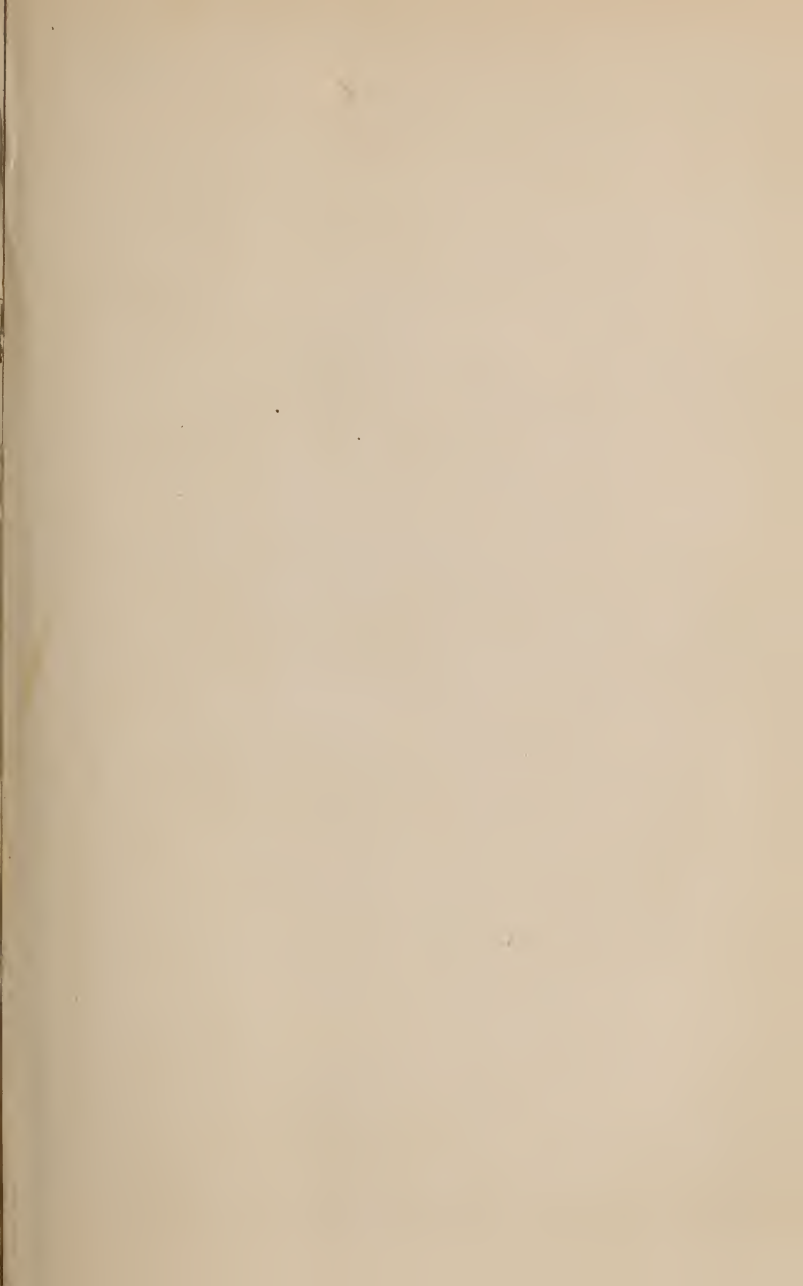
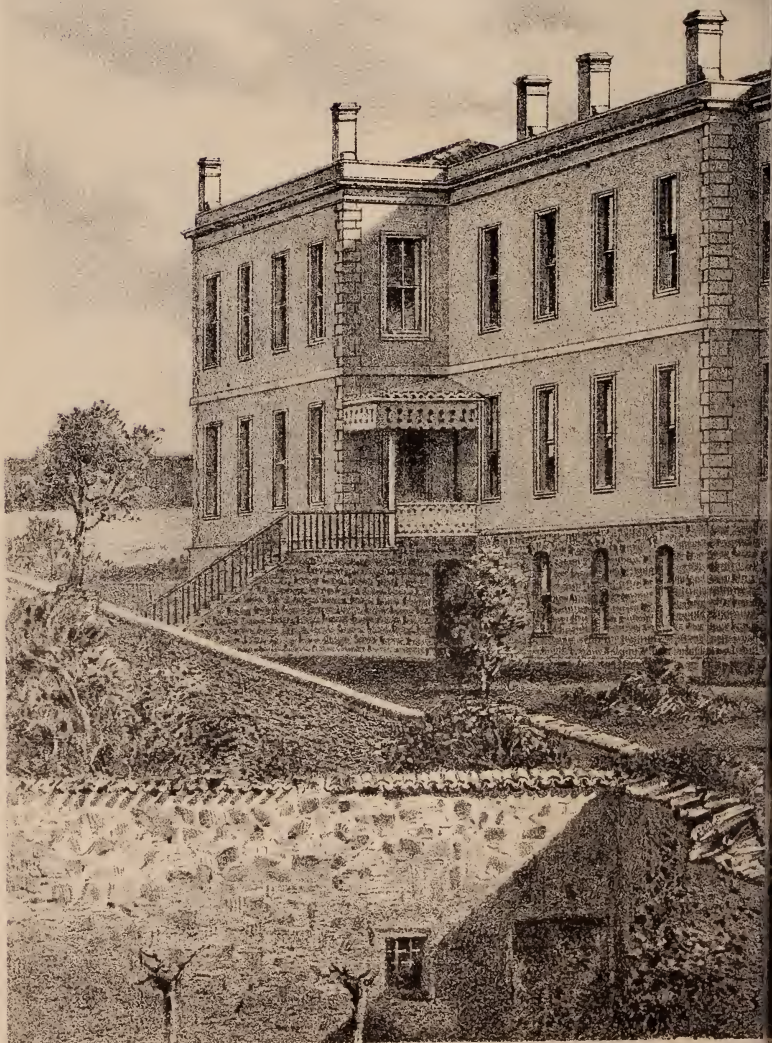




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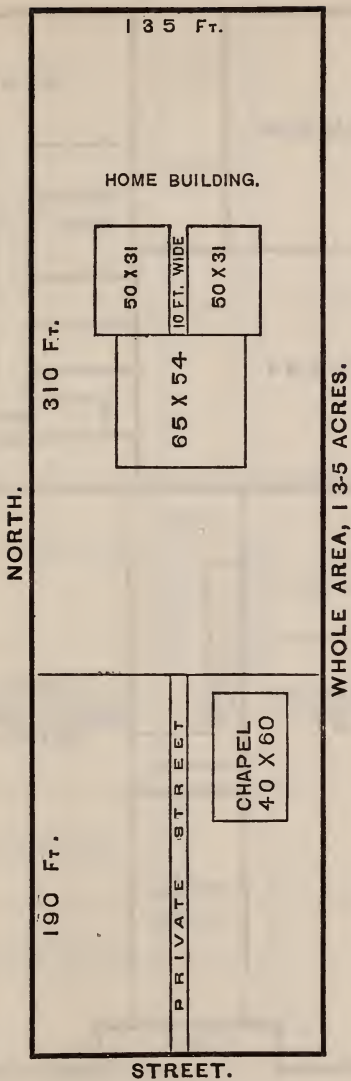
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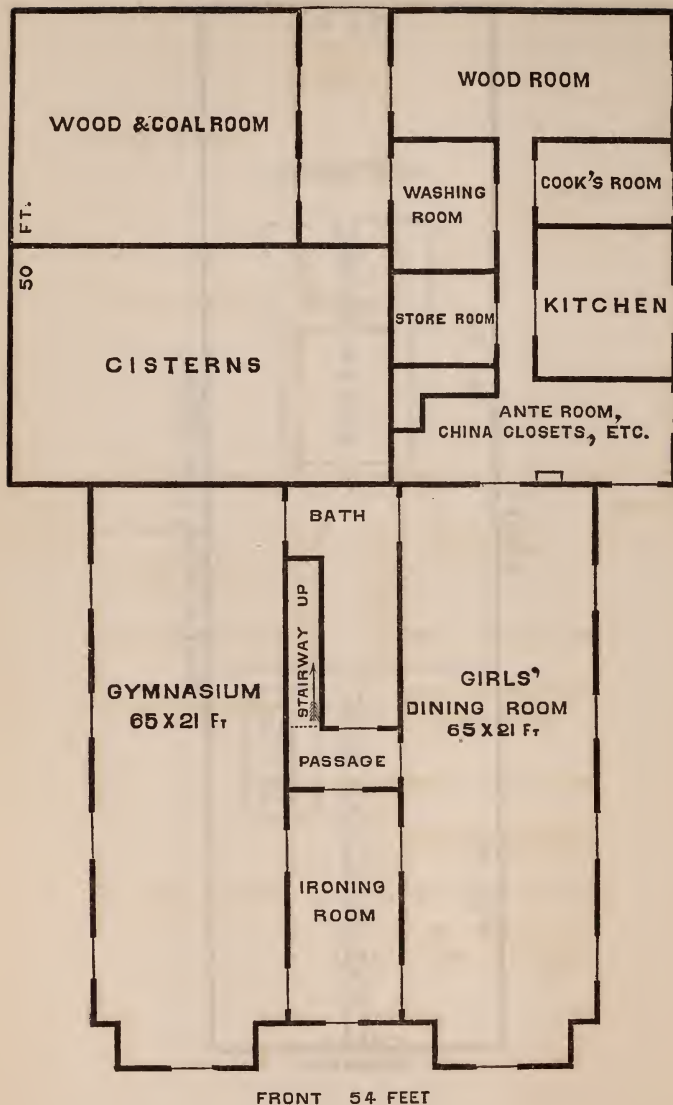


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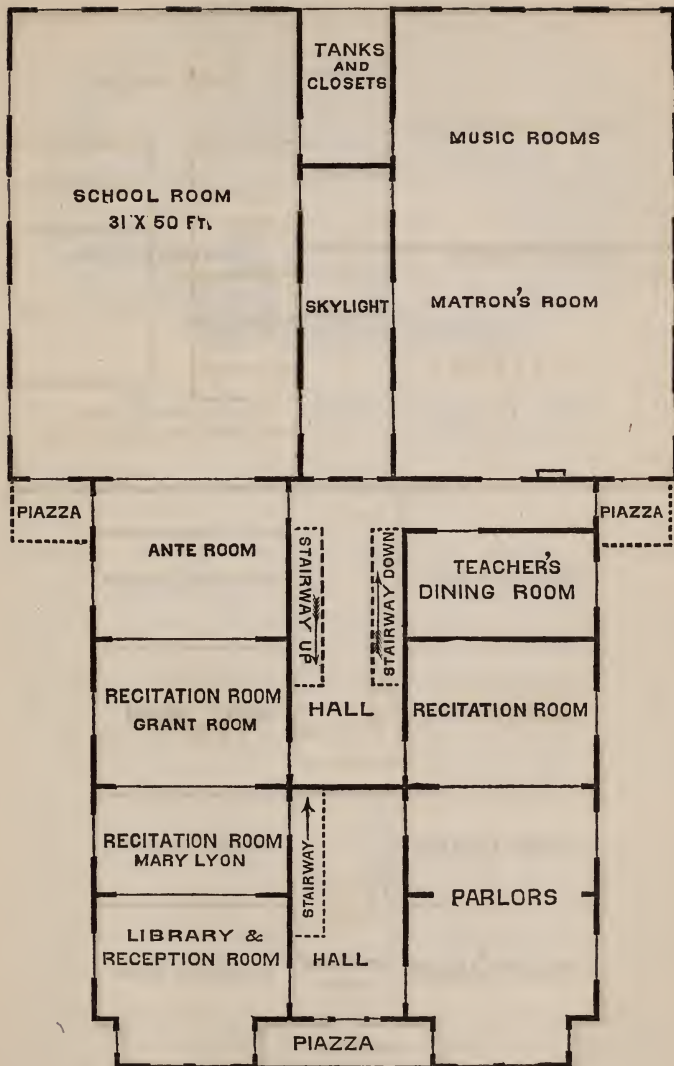
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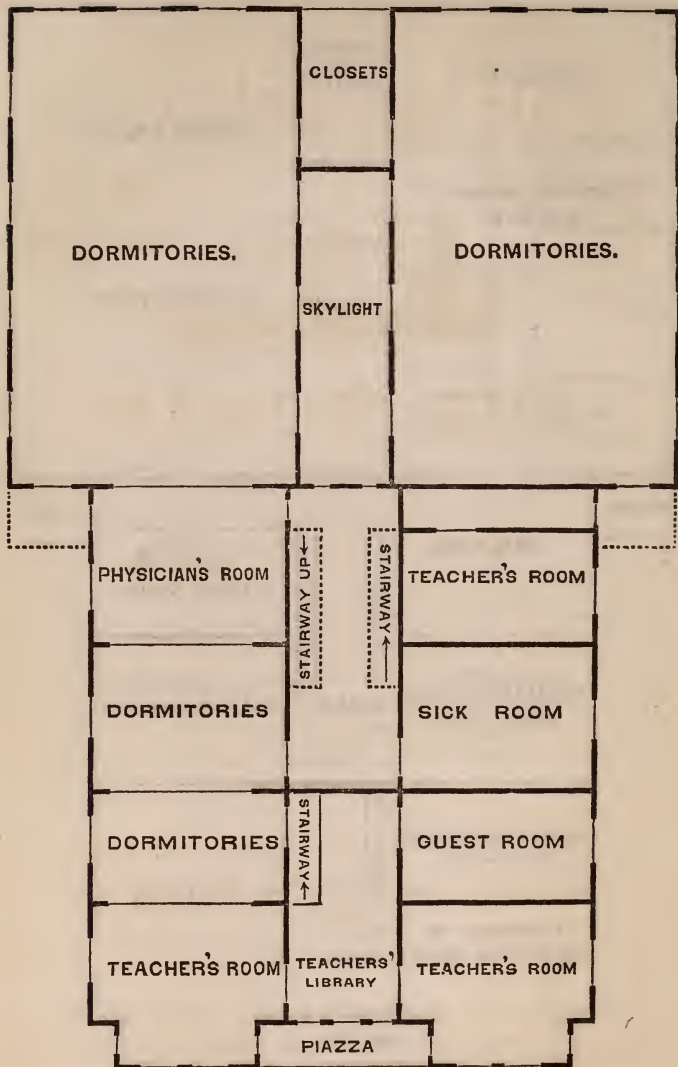
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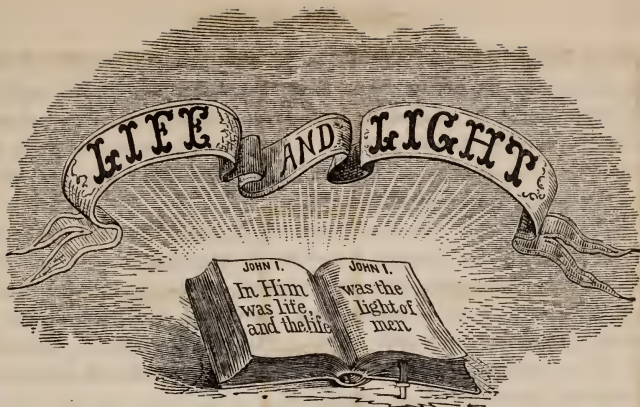


FIRST FLOOR.



SECOND FLOOR.





FOR WOMAN.

VOL. VI.

OCTOBER, 1876.

No. 10.

THE CONSTANTINOPLE HOME.

WE are very sure that the name "Constantinople Home" has become dear to hundreds and thousands, who through much labor, self-denial, and prayer, have contributed to its erection, and who will be glad to rejoice with us over its successful completion. When the pupils who were to occupy the new building first stood on its beautiful site, they let one of their glad songs echo along the trenches prepared for the foundation-stones; and so may not we to-day unite in a pæan of praise for what our Lord has enabled us to do for his glory?

Now that the last touches have been given to the building, now that teachers and scholars, by a residence of several months, have proved its substantial character and convenient arrangements, and are hopefully laying foundations for its future usefulness, we may recapitulate with profit the way in which the Lord our God hath led us.

When seven years ago, soon after the formation of the Woman's Board, missionaries in Constantinople began to see urgent need of a Christian home school in that city, which would correspond, in the value of the education given, with our better schools in America, we were not surprised. Where has Christianity entered, and done its legitimate work, and left women contented in their degradation? Civilization has, indeed, done much in gay, pleasure-

loving Constantinople, the Paris of the Eastern world. It has demanded by its public voice that the daughters of its wealthy citizens should be educated; and there are now two large Armenian seminaries, where polished Armenian girls are sent away the wiser by a knowledge of French, music, and painting, but without the blessing of Christian training.

Early in 1869 a call was received by the Woman's Board of Missions, from the foreign secretary of the American Board, for "a home in Constantinople which should be the centre of a three-fold Christian work — missionary, medical, and educational — among the women and girls of that city and vicinity." He asked for three thousand dollars to commence the work, to which the Woman's Board favorably responded.

The missionaries began at once to take steps to secure a suitable place for such an institution. At the same time we at home were seeking a lady possessed of the rare talents necessary to the head of such a school. In the autumn of 1870 Miss Julia A. Rappleye was sent out to fill this place, and in a single year had sufficient command of the language to commence the school. A home was rented in Stamboul, the old part of the city; and in October, 1871, the first session opened with three pupils. This was a small beginning; but, within a few weeks, the efficient teacher was cheered in her labor by hopeful indications. During the first year, the school increased gradually in numbers, and in favor with the people. Practical questions arose and were settled: various plans, looking to the possibilities of the Home for highest good in the future, were discussed in Constantinople and by the friends at home.

The result was the recommendation of the following plan for work:—

"The design of the Home is to be a centre of Christian work; that of the home-school, or seminary, is to train Christian workers, and at the same time afford opportunity of culture such as we may give to daughters of parents desiring it for their children. The school is, therefore, to be thoroughly Christian, and also missionary in its aim. All its arrangements and administration are to be such as to secure, as largely as possible, with the divine blessing, these results; viz., a true and symmetrical Christian character in the pupils; well-ordered Christian homes; well-qualified teachers of native female seminaries and higher schools, wives of pastors, and Bible-women.

“To secure this, the grade of education should be so high as to qualify teachers to take charge of schools of the highest order that may be demanded in the capital and other cities of Turkey, and such as to command the respect and confidence of the people of Constantinople.”

“The lady in charge of the City Missionary Department will not only visit the women, from house to house, conversing on religious subjects, reading the Bible, and praying with them, and persuading them to do so themselves, but she will also train and direct native women and girls in the same work; and thus will raise up, we hope, a large and efficient corps of Bible-women and city missionaries, who will be, in many ways, better adapted than a foreigner to labor among their own people.

“The medical lady will not only seek to win the souls of her patients, but to remove prejudice by her medical skill, and her labors of love in the dispensary and in their own homes, and thus open to Christian influences many a door which would otherwise be closed. She will also, by instructing the pupils of the school in physiology and the laws of health, prepare them to impart their knowledge to others, and to make their own future homes far different from the present homes of that land.”

By thus raising up teachers for native schools, it will prepare, in the most efficient and economical manner, to supply the ever-increasing demand for female education. It should afford its advantages to poor girls of promising character, who are struggling to fit themselves for Christian work as teachers, Bible-readers, or wives of native pastors, by a limited number of free scholarships.

“It is believed, that, by exacting payment, the school will be more highly appreciated, more gratitude will be felt for its benefits, and results of a higher spiritual value will be in every way secured. This conviction is strengthened by what we already see in the effects produced.

“The sum of at least twenty-five Turkish liras (about one hundred and ten dollars) a year for boarding scholars, and half a lira (\$2.20) a month for day scholars, payable for each session or term in advance, to be the rule of admission; charitable assistance being afforded only in exceptional cases, and, in each, on its individual merits.”

In the official communication made to the Woman's Board by the Annual Meeting of the Western Turkey Mission in 1872, at

which time this matter had been fully discussed, it was resolved that "such a school is urgently needed in this city, and may be expected to furnish a large number of laborers, and those of higher promise, for all departments of evangelistic work."

In view of which, said Dr. Wood, "In conclusion, we beg to enlist the continued enthusiastic support of the ladies of the Woman's Board for the Home, and to the enterprise of raising a building-fund of not less than fifty thousand dollars. All that is greatly good costs. It is difficult to conceive an object better fitted to engage sympathy, and arouse effort. Surely, in this great centre of population and influence, there should be one truly Christian institution for the daughters of Turkey, as comprehensive in its scope as that which they have contemplated, and it should be placed on an enduring foundation. It cannot but be that the Christ-like benevolence of the women of America will give this boon. It belongs especially to the constituents of the American Board to bestow it; and it would be unfortunate, if, through a failure on their part, we should suffer as a missionary station."

Dr. Clark and his wife, one of our vice-presidents, who had providentially been in Constantinople the preceding year, had been impressed by the importance of this enterprise, and now heartily indorsed the call. The Prudential Committee of the American Board approved, but submitted to us the following considerations as applicable to such cases:—

"A strictly missionary society can aid only by counsel and encouragement, perhaps by giving missionaries to take charge of the needed institutions, and by commending them to the sympathy and aid of the Christian public. It cannot allow any diversion of its funds in aid, further than may be promotive of its proper work of evangelization."

The call for fifty thousand dollars in gold seemed startling at first; for it must be remembered, that, in this fourth year of our work, our pledges for the year amounted to less than thirty-one thousand dollars. When it is borne in mind that this additional sum must be wholly extra from our regular missionary contributions, we thank God to-day for the faith which enabled us to say, "We will do it." The executive officers of our Board early showed their confidence in the enterprise by themselves subscribing five thousand dollars.

A beautiful site was soon selected in Scutari, a suburb of Constantinople, containing about sixty thousand inhabitants, bearing

the same relation to the main city that Brooklyn does to New York. With the many delays so proverbial in Turkey, it was, however, nearly two years before the purchase could be made, and the proper title secured.

In the mean time, the school had been growing rapidly in numbers and popularity. By the close of the second year, very satisfactory results had been attained. The most perfect order and discipline had been established. Untamed Armenian girls, used to no restraint in their homes, had become accustomed to go through the routine of school-life, with the regularity and punctuality seen in our best American schools. The awkward shyness of girls hitherto secluded from society had given way to a quiet repose of manner, and ladylike demeanor. Their thorough scholarship was shown in the public examinations, which were the wonder and delight of all. On these occasions the rooms were crowded with the parents and friends of the pupils.

Many expressions of approbation were heard at the scholarship, modesty, obedience, and readiness of the pupils.

But better than evidences of intellectual improvement was the development of Christian principle among the scholars. Their interest in religious subjects was such, that, about the middle of the second year, Miss Rappleye felt that she could write, "Various evidences make me hope that many of the pupils, I think I can say a majority, have really begun to have experimental knowledge of the better way." The change in their deportment was very great, and was the cause of remark among their family friends. The heaven was also found working in their own homes.

At the close of the second year, July, 1873, the number of pupils had increased to twenty-five, and the accommodations were too narrow to receive any new applicants. The lease of the house in Stamboul had expired; and it was decided to rent a larger house in Scutari for two years, when it was hoped that the new building would be ready for occupancy. Although there was some falling-off at first, owing to the change of location, the number was soon made up. Two prosperous years followed, and the limitations of the new quarters were beginning to be seriously felt. The year 1875 was a trying one in the interior workings of the Home, owing, chiefly, to the loss of several teachers through ill-health and other causes; but the efficiency of the principal, equal to the emergency, carried the family and school successfully through. After the land for the new building had been purchased, and the title finally

made secure, the next step was to obtain permission to build. Then followed another long process, another tedious waiting-time on Turkish officials; but, through the divine blessing on the judicious efforts of friends, success came at last; and in December, 1874, the first shovelful of earth was thrown, and work actually begun. From that time the building went rapidly forward, notwithstanding all opposition. It was so nearly finished in November, 1875, as to enable the teachers, missionaries, and their friends, to partake of a Thanksgiving dinner in one of the upper rooms. We can imagine the thankful hearts that gathered about that board, — thankful that the great enterprise which had caused so many anxious days and nights, so much thought and time and labor, was at last so near successful completion.

On the 6th of January, 1876, the teachers and pupils moved into the new building; and another era was begun in the history of our institution, which we hope and pray may become a loved and honored place, and an untold blessing to the daughters of Turkey for generations to come.

On entering the new Home, it was necessary to re-organize the corps of teachers, Miss Rappleye being appointed to the charge of a school in Broosa; Miss Noyes, her faithful assistant for two years, having been obliged to return home on account of ill health, and Miss Dwight, another assistant, being removed by the same cause. We were happy in securing the services of Mrs. Kate P. Williams as principal, whose former experience in missionary life in Turkey, with her eminent qualifications, gave her especial fitness for the work. Miss Ellen C. Parsons, recently of Lake Erie Seminary, Painesville, O.; Mrs. Cora W. Tomson, who went out to engage in city missionary work, but having been hindered from laboring in that department, has for some years rendered valuable service in the Home; Miss Mary J. Patrick, a fine Armenian scholar, coming from missionary work in Erzroom; and Miss Annie Bliss, a successful teacher of music and the ornamental branches in the institution, — complete a band of teachers whom we rejoice to commend to the prayers of all interested in the Home.

The various nationalities and languages among the pupils necessitate a larger number of teachers than would otherwise be needed; and, for this reason, English may soon become the language of the school. Many applications for admission have been received from quite young girls; and it is evident that a preparatory department would be an important adjunct to the main school. The basement of the chapel indicated in the plan will probably supply this need.

The way in which the funds for the Home have been raised in this country is too familiar to need extended notice here. It was not without much labor, planning, and forethought, that so large a sum (fifty-eight thousand dollars in currency) has been obtained, aside from the regular contributions to the society; and it is a matter of great rejoicing that the work has not been retarded an instant for want of funds. The thirty thousand dollars first raised was appropriated for purchasing the land, and for building in part. Money subsequently given for the rooms included the finishing and furnishing of them.

In accordance with the appointment of the trustees, Mr. Pettibone, one of their number, superintended the erection of the building. So wisely has this been done, that, after discharging all our liabilities, funds remain for the erection of a dispensary on the grounds. In the original plan, this was to have place in the main building; but, upon due deliberation, it was thought best to make the change.

The officers of the Board wish to present at this time their warmest thanks to the many friends whose cordial sympathy, and ready response to all appeals, have made the labor a pleasure, instead of a burden. Your treasure is laid up in heaven, dear friends, and cannot fade away. The reward is sure.

In this number, we give a lithograph* of the exterior of the Home as it appears at the present time, and also plans of the grounds and of the interior. We append a brief description from the superintendent of the building:—

“The Home consists of a main building fifty-four feet by sixty-five feet, and of two wings, each thirty-one feet by fifty feet. Only one of the wings appears in the engraving.

“The basement of the main building has a dining-room (on the right as you face the engraving), in the centre a laundry and a bath-room, and, on the left, rooms for the use of the school.

“The basement of the wing on the left is occupied with a cistern and a wood-room; while in that of the other wing are kitchen, wash-room, and store-rooms.

“The first floor of the main building has on the left of the hall four rooms designed for reception and recitation rooms. They are connected by folding-doors, and can be thrown into one apartment with the schoolroom, which occupies the left wing. Four rooms

* Lithographs of the Home Building suitable for framing may be obtained at the rooms of the W. B. M. Price 10 cents each, or 15 cents by mail.

on the right of the hall furnish double parlor, dining-room, &c.; while the right wing has rooms for matron and for music.

“The upper floor of the main building has on the left, in front, a room for one of the ladies, dormitories, and a physician’s room; while on the right of the hall are also two rooms for teachers, a guest-room, and a room designed for the use of the sick. The wings are occupied with dormitories. The front of the hall, looking out upon the piazza, is a pleasant sitting-room and library.

“From the roof you have a magnificent view. Facing the west, there is on the left the Marmora, the Prince’s Islands, and, in the far distance, the snow-crowned tops of the Bithynian Olympus. The slope of Scutari is before you; and at its foot, a mile distant, is the Bosphorus, beyond which rise the domes of St. Sophia, Bayazid, and other fine mosques; and in plain view is the new Bible House. Farther to the right is the large suburb of Galata and Pera, and to the north is the Bosphorus with its beautiful palaces and gardens, and more beautiful still than palace or mosque, because more useful, Robert College.

“The Bible House, the College, and the Home are the outgrowth of the mission-work; let us pray, that, whatever revolutions may take place in the East, these beneficent institutions may long remain to be a blessing to all classes of the people in the Turkish empire.”

This, in brief, is a sketch of the Constantinople Home from the inception of the enterprise to the present time. Of its future, who can tell? May the Lord our God dwell there as he dwelt in his temple of old; may he never leave it nor forsake it; may he incline the hearts of its inmates to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his judgments; and through their influence may the people of the earth know that the Lord is God!

ADDITIONAL GLIMPSES.

Our readers cannot fail to be interested in the following extract from a paper on the “Home,” prepared by the Secretary of the Bureau of Exchange for a recent meeting.

“Our new Home is not, we trust, unworthy, in its material aspect, of the promised time for which we pray and labor.

“It is removed from the annoyances of a Turkish street, by the width of the mission-premises of the American Board. The lot of the latter, fronting west, is divided by a private street, which gives access to our own lot. This contains nearly an acre of

ground, and is surrounded by a stone wall, a portion of which appears in the picture.

“The ground in front of the building is a hundred feet deep by one hundred and thirty-five feet wide. It is divided into plats green with grass, and brilliant with pansies, geraniums, verbenas, and other flowers, whose very names are fragrant and home-like. Horse-chestnut, white locust, and other trees, adorn the grounds; and a summer-house has just been built in the girls’ garden, behind the house.

“The substantial basement walls are of stone. The upper walls are of brick, rendered weather-proof in that climate by a hard English cement, the color of which softly blends with that of the stone trimmings.

“By a double flight of stone steps with iron balustrades, we reach the front-entrance, — double doors opening from a recessed piazza. We enter from the west. In the front hall hangs the motto, ‘This house for God,’ — the keystone of our arch. On the right or south side of the hall are the parlors, where we feel quite at home, with the soft-tinted brown carpets, the cosey sofas and centre-tables, the graceful cane-seated chairs, and the piano [the gift of a friend through Mrs. Edwin Bliss], ready to discourse sweet music. We turn to the windows. Their white curtains half hide, half reveal, the loveliness of the distant scenes. So commanding is the site, that we need not ascend to the upper floors, or the roof, for a view. Across the classic Bosphorus, lined with villas and palaces and gardens, we discern Robert College, five miles to the north-east, on the European side; while westward is Seraglio Point, laved by the blue waters of the channel, beyond which appear the minarets and domes of the city of Constantine.

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“More than thirteen centuries ago, the Emperor Justinian, ruler over that first Christian capital of the world, issued orders for the rebuilding of the Church of San Sophia, founded by Constantine as the first Christian cathedral. On that magnificent temple wrought ‘ten thousand workmen, whose payment, in pieces of fine silver, was never delayed beyond the evening. The emperor himself surveyed each day their progress, and encouraged their diligence by his rewards.’ Fame praises the architects who hung those wondrous domes in air. The hundred columns, the rich and variegated marble pavements, the pillars of green and purple, the jaspers and the porphyries, were offerings from Asia Minor, from

Greece, from Africa, from Gaul; and no ship might sail from the harbors of the empire, if it brought not back a tribute to the glory of the temple.

“In that proud capital, the cross has been displaced by the crescent, and that Christian temple is now the shrine of the Turk, the mosque of the false prophet.

“But Christ’s name shall yet be glorified in that ancient city. We are helping to build there a spiritual edifice, more beautiful and more enduring than all the gold and precious stones of San Sophia. Our King himself surveys our work each day, and at the eventide rewards our diligence with gracious benediction, more precious than the finest of silver.

“May not our love be intensified, and our work continually augmented, as we offer him, not marbles, not gold alone, but ‘living stones,’ rescued from darkness through our prayers and labors, and ‘polished after the similitude of a palace,’ for ‘the city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God’?”

AFRICA.

WORK AMONG THE KRAALS.

BY MISS G. R. HANCE.

I BEGAN my work among the kraals more than four years ago. It was then such a new thing, and I felt so uncertain about its success, that I did not find courage to say much about it until God brought me more and more to see that he was ready to bless my efforts for these poor, degraded women.

After much visiting at the kraals, talking with the head men and women, and encouraging a Christian woman to go with me, the meetings began. The Bible-woman thought I could not understand how hard the hearts of these kraal women were. Men and boys came into the meetings at first: women laughed, babies cried, dogs barked, and all that knew how talked. After a time we became quiet. The men and boys seemed to understand that I would rather they would not stay, as the meeting was not for them or for the children, but only for the women; and the mothers found out that I did not want them to send their children as an excuse for remaining away themselves. I wished the women at the beginning to feel the responsibility of the meetings as far as

possible. We kept them up for some time, and I could see that they were learning to respect my wishes in trying to come, and to keep still while we were together; but I could not see that the truth was impressing their hearts, and that they came because they wanted to hear it.

One day, I shall never forget it, I started with my Bible-woman to walk about two miles to a place where we were to have a meeting. The day was very warm. I became so wearied, that we sat down near the road in the hot sun. I felt very tired—yes, and discouraged. As I sat there, I thought, “What will it avail, if I go on? What can I do? I speak the language so imperfectly, what can I say,—oh! what can I say to reach their hearts, even though they understand with their ears?” While I was sitting there with these thoughts, a woman came up with a pot of food on her head. She seemed hurried, and said as she ran along, “I am hastening home with this food, so as to be in time for the meeting.” We arose at once, and went on.

When we reached the kraal where the meeting was to be held, we found one of the houses made clean and nice for us, with mats spread down for us to sit on. I went in. It seemed cooler than outside, and I felt refreshed. Soon the house began to fill with women. I think there were as many as thirty. After we had sung, I said to the Bible-woman, “I don’t feel as if I could speak at all to-day. Ask God to help us.” She prayed; and in her prayer she seemed to bring God very near; and I felt such a flood of light break in upon my soul, such peace, such strength in God’s love through his Son, that, when she had finished praying, I began to tell them about this love. I forgot that I was not speaking in my native language. I forgot my fatigue. I forgot almost every thing but that I had their quiet, fixed attention, and that God was giving me words to speak.

As the meeting closed, we all went out. The setting sun with his golden rays made beautiful the whole landscape before us, and seemed like an earnest of the time when the Sun of righteousness should lighten every corner of the earth. The women were hushed to silence, and were standing about in little groups. I heard one say, “If this is true that she told us, what can we do? what shall we do?” As we passed a house, I heard a woman who had returned from the meeting telling over to another, and trying to make her understand, what she had heard. A third followed us along to give various excuses why she could not become a Christian.

When we were alone, the Bible-woman said, "I never heard you speak before as you did to-day."

There was an old woman at this meeting whom I did not observe at the time. I remembered her at two or three meetings afterwards, and noticed that she seemed to catch every word. She was taken suddenly ill, and died in a few days. She was conscious to the last, and seemed to fully realize that her days on earth were nearly over. She called all her friends and the people about her, and said, "I believe the words that Miss Hance has told us are true. I am going to die. I do not know as this Saviour will save me. I have asked him; but I don't know him very well. I don't know how to pray very well; still I have asked him to help me, and perhaps he will. Before I die, I wish to tell you that I believe God and his Son are the ones we should worship. I want you to go to the meetings for the women, and learn all you can about God and Jesus Christ, so that, when you come to die, you need not be as I am now, but sure you will be saved."

She was a quiet old woman, and much respected by both the men and women who listened to her, and by many others who knew her, and heard of what she said. All were astonished, as she had never spoken on such a subject before. Even now, people often speak of what she said. From that time the kraal work gradually grew in favor, and, I trust, in usefulness. Now we have meetings in five or six different directions from the station. There is more that is interesting in this work than I have power to express.

Our Work at Home.

WORK IN BRANCH SOCIETIES.

At the beginning of another working-season, it may be pleasant to glance at the state of the home-work as it exists in the various branch societies connected with our Board.

The first of these branches was organized in PHILADELPHIA, in 1870, comprising the few Congregational churches scattered through Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. Though planted in a soil mainly occupied by Boards of other

denominations, it was the first to come to our support in the days when we felt the need most strongly; and it has labored most diligently to gather up whatever was to fall to our share in the good work. It has now seventeen auxiliaries and ten mission-circles, and supports Miss Gouldy at Osaka, Japan, Miss Proctor, and her seminary at Aintab, Turkey, one year giving an extra thousand dollars for the purchase of additional land for the school-building. It has also four Bible-readers, and several scholarships in mission-schools. As an example of its diligence in cultivating the home-field, we have recently heard that one of its auxiliaries has been formed in a church which had itself been in existence less than a year.

THE NEW HAVEN BRANCH "was organized in April, 1870, in a private parlor, with but thirty members, after the earnest and persistent effort of two individuals for two years." At this meeting, the hope was hesitatingly expressed, that five hundred dollars might be raised the first year. At its fifth annual meeting, in May last, there were reported a hundred auxiliaries and sixty mission-circles; and the receipts for the year were \$10,250.58. The territory of the branch extends over the four Western counties of Connecticut; two vice-presidents having charge of the work in each county, and making frequent reports to the Central Committee in New Haven. Quarterly meetings are held, one in each of the counties, during the year; and at New Haven there is an open monthly meeting of great interest. Besides the large correspondence upon auxiliary matters, its secretaries sent out over five hundred manuscript letters and circulars in the year. It has under its fostering care in the foreign field Mrs. Edwards in South Africa, Mrs. Leonard in Marsovan, Turkey, Miss Andrews in China, Miss Strong in Mexico, Mrs. Hume in India, Mrs. DeForest in Japan, and Mrs. Williams at the Constantinople Home, also fourteen Bible-readers, three native teachers, three village schools, seventy-eight scholarships, and a thousand dollar share in our prospective Home in Japan. To human view, the great success of this branch is due, with God's blessing, to the indefatigable labors of its officers and members. They have met with the usual amount of coldness and indifference, as well as with much enthusiasm in the cause; but overcoming the one, and rejoicing in the other, by persistent effort they have gone on triumphantly. Many touching instances of self-denial and consecration have occurred; and many blessed rewards have been received

through the presence of the Holy Spirit. Among these is the case of a mission-circle composed of thirteen young girls, every one of whom has been brought into the church during the past year, and who attribute their first awakening in personal religion to their interest in missions.

THE VERMONT BRANCH, comprising the whole State, was organized in June, 1873, and since that time has made sure and steady progress, winning its way into the churches, and into the hearts of Christian women. Vice-presidents in each county share the work with the president and secretaries, and greatly facilitate its progress. It now reports one hundred organizations, seventy-four auxiliaries, and twenty-six mission-circles. It is pledged to meet this year the salary of the Misses Ely of Bitlis, Turkey, and of Mrs. Park of Sholapoor, India. It pledges, also, the partial support of the schools in Udupitty, Ceylon, and Foochow, China, the rent of a home for Miss Norris in Bombay, and a thousand dollars toward our proposed Home in Japan. It supports four pupils in Uduville, Ceylon, two pupils in Harpoot, Turkey, four Bible-readers, and the Hindu Girls' School in Madura. This is a goodly record for an existence of three years. The Vermont Branch bids fair to reap soon the harvest which is promised as a reward of faithful, untiring effort.

THE RHODE ISLAND BRANCH was formed in October, 1873, and has now arrived more nearly than any other to the true idea of a branch, inasmuch as there are only six churches in the State not identified with it. It numbers eighteen auxiliaries and thirteen mission-circles; and it supports Miss Ashley at Bombay, Mrs. Tyler in South Africa, Miss Payson in China, seven village schools, and scholarships in the Dakota Home, and other mission-schools. One of the later features in this branch is the boys' mission-circles, or missionary clubs as they prefer to call them. Much enthusiasm has been developed in them; and their constitutions and by-laws are well worthy of imitation by people older and wiser than they.

THE MAINE BRANCH, organized in 1873, labors under the disadvantage of a large territory with a comparatively small population. The obstacles in the way of bringing the auxiliaries in contact with each other, and binding them together in the common cause, have been obviated in a great measure, however, by the activity of the officers of the branch, and by the holding of state and county meetings in connection with the state and county conferences. It has fifty auxiliaries and twenty-eight mission-circles, and sup-

ports Mrs. Wheeler of Harpoot, the seminaries at Mardin and Bardesag, Turkey, a boarding-school at Umzumbi, South Africa, one Bible-reader, and several scholarships. It has also given largely to our general fund. Many gifts from the poor are here laid on the altar, and an especial blessing waits on the many prayers offered by aged saints for its prosperity. This branch also rejoices in an auxiliary, the only one, we think, in all our branches, that comes up to the perfect standard, — one in which all the female members of the church are also members of the auxiliary. Mission-circles have been very successful: one is specially mentioned in a large city, with a little blind girl for president, which is felt to be a real power for good in the city. The branch has just entered with enthusiasm on work for the endowment fund for the female department in Armenia College in Harpoot. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler, recently from that station, are rendering efficient aid in this undertaking.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE BRANCH, formed on the day following the organization of the Maine Branch, has seventy-three auxiliaries and twenty-three mission-circles. It supports Miss Norris in Bombay, and one Bible-reader; has several scholarships; has pledged a thousand dollars for the Home in Japan; and pays largely to our general fund. Its secretary, Mrs. H. C. Knight, after writing of a small auxiliary which has taken a share in the Japan Home, says, "This comes from a small and discouraged church; but what pluck there is in it! It illustrates the kind of work which is going on everywhere, through the influence of the Woman's Boards. First, an interchange of information and sympathy, and a new sense of Christian fellowship springing out of it in the churches. Secondly, in conferring together, there is inspiration and hope. A coal by itself goes out: three coals together keep up a glow. Thirdly, achievement. That twenty dollars is the first-fruit of many more.

"We raised over three thousand dollars last year, and we are busy redeeming our pledges for this; but we are not satisfied. We look over the State here and there, and long for many more to share the good work with us. We know it will enlarge and quicken them, as it has enlarged and quickened us. We feel that the redeeming and elevating power of Christian truth, and the grace of God, was never so much to us as since we have made it a business to understand better the condition and needs of wives, mothers, and daughters without it."

The next in order is the SPRINGFIELD BRANCH (Hampden County, Massachusetts), our first county branch. As such, it has made a way for others to follow its admirable example. It has twenty-three auxiliaries, and twenty-one mission-circles; and its beneficiaries are Misses Talcott and Wheeler in Japan, and Mrs. Allen of Harpoot, Miss Closson's school in Cæsarea, besides native teachers and scholarships in various mission-fields. Its president writes, "I have often been made humbly thankful, the last few months, by the assurance of good men and women in this part of the State, that the influence of the Springfield Branch has been powerfully felt in this region; that the missionary interest has been greatly extended by it, and active piety in the churches promoted. This is something that I did not expect to hear, coming, as it did, from outside our own county."

This has been, from the beginning, truly a missionary branch; its seed generously and self-sacrificingly sown beyond the bounds of its own territory, and already springing up in plants of much promise.

THE HARTFORD BRANCH (Connecticut), organized in October, 1874, has cultivated most assiduously its immediate vicinity; and its work, both at home and abroad, compares favorably with those of much larger area. Its quarterly meetings are of great interest, and its future prospects bright and promising. It has twenty-three auxiliaries and nine mission-circles, and has under its care Miss Townshend of Ceylon, with three pupils in her school, one Bible-reader, scholarships in Inanda Seminary, Foochow, China, and Ceylon, besides shares in the Home in Japan.

THE NEW LONDON COUNTY BRANCH (Connecticut), formed in June, 1875, has spent most of its first year in preparation for its future work. The first annual meeting, in June last, was one of great enthusiasm; and its officers look forward to the coming year with hope and courage. It numbers fifteen auxiliaries and eight mission-circles, and supports Mrs. Henry Schauffler of Brün, Austria, Miss E. C. Parsons of the Constantinople Home, two Bible-readers, and several scholarships in mission-schools.

THE NEW YORK STATE BRANCH was formed in October, 1875. Its auxiliaries were so widely separated, that its first work has been to promote acquaintance among them, and to bind them together in interest, as far as possible. Vice-presidents have been appointed in each conference, and systematic efforts made to secure the co-operation of the churches. It has twenty-three

auxiliaries and twelve mission-circles, and supports Miss Fritcher of Marsovan, Miss Bush of Harpoot, one Bible-reader, and has a large number of scholarships.

THE WORCESTER COUNTY BRANCH (Massachusetts) was organized in December, 1875. The county has been divided into districts, each with a secretary, whose duty it is to have charge of the towns allotted to her division, striving to increase interest in the cause of missions, and to form new auxiliaries. Seven of these were organized during its first quarter. The benefits of organization are strikingly shown at this early stage of its history. Its receipts were less than a hundred dollars during its first quarter, nearly a thousand during its second. Its sore bereavement in the recent death of its president is a severe trial of its strength and persistency. Its auxiliaries number twenty-eight, mission-circles eleven. Besides scholarships, it supports Miss Cull at Manissa, Turkey, Mrs. Hartwell of China, Miss Gulick of Japan, Miss Pratt of Mardin, Turkey, and two Bible-readers.

THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BRANCH (Massachusetts), formed in Greenfield in February last, has been doing a good work among the hill-towns of the county. The labor has been mostly preparatory; but it has not been without results, as shown by the fact that its receipts for the second quarter were more than double those of the first. A part of the receipts have been appropriated to the Home in Japan, and a part to our much needed general fund.

THE HAMPSHIRE COUNTY BRANCH (Massachusetts) was formed in May last, at Northampton. A good degree of interest has been developed during the summer months; and promising results are already beginning to be realized.

It has assumed the support of Miss Stevens of Japan, besides two Bible-readers, village schools, and several scholarships.

We have now thirteen branch societies, and, in all, over a thousand auxiliaries and mission-circles. As societies are constantly forming, it is difficult to obtain exact information at any one time. Many of the above statistics were given in May last; but they may be considered substantially correct to the present time.

As the time for the estimates for the coming year is so near at hand, it is hardly worth while to give a list of the work which has not been taken by different societies: we will only say, that there are still unassumed eleven missionaries, twenty-six schools of various grades, and about twenty scholarships. We are very anxious that all this work should be pledged before the 1st of January,

if possible, that we may feel authorized to take the large amount of new work which is sure to be pressed upon us at that time. Aside from these appropriations, our readers must bear in mind that our incidental expenses are not small. The outfits and travelling expenses of missionaries, the homes to be provided for them on heathen ground, the rents, repairs, and additions to school-buildings, and other smaller expenses, require a large fund outside the pledged work.

This, in brief, is the state of the home-work at present. Another winter is before us, with its duties, its pleasures, and opportunities. The financial depression in the country still continues; and we must make up our minds to persistent, unremitting labor, to sacrifice and self-denial, if we would not see the kingdom of our Lord going backward, instead of forward. Are you willing to do it, friends? May God give us all strength and grace to do with our might the part he has allotted to us!

REFLEX INFLUENCE.

MUCH has been said of the reflex influence of missionary work. The following extracts, which have recently come to our notice, illustrate one of the many ways in which a double blessing falls on earnest efforts for those in heathen lands. A secretary of an auxiliary in Maine writes to one of our co-laborers, —

“ So great an interest has been awakened in the work since the formation of our society, that our numbers have increased from twenty to fifty-seven members, and others are nearly ready to join. The attendance upon our meetings has been good; sometimes we have seventy present; and many of the young people are becoming deeply interested. When I look back over what has been done, I can only lift my heart in thankfulness, and say, ‘ What hath God wrought!’ ”

“ Our society has proved a power for good with us in many ways. Some have met at our meetings who have been separated for years by animosities, and have again become firm friends. I would urge the importance of an auxiliary upon every church, as a peacemaker and healer of all difficulties. The reflex influence of the work we are called to do is invaluable to all who engage in it. The prayers and efforts we are putting forth for women who are far away from us, sitting in such gross darkness, bring a blessing

to our own hearts equal to if not exceeding the benefit they receive. This society has in this short time proved to be a power greater by far than any or all other missionary work attempted in our church."

A president of another auxiliary writes to the same friend, —

"We can never repay you for the work you so cheerfully performed when you were with us, in organizing a missionary society here. It has been of incalculable value to us; and we trust some good has been done by our donations to the 'Mother Society.' Our people have never given so liberally to any good cause as to this. All are interested, old and young. The Juvenile Society is increasing in numbers and interest, and we hope and confidently expect to do much more next year than we have done in the year that is past; but, above all, we find ourselves at work on common ground. Old hardnesses, which had become very hard, have all been brought under the influence of the softening power there is in working for Jesus. If no other good is ever done through this organization, we feel that we should bless God for this. And we meet and work and pray as one in Jesus. We feel that we must urge it upon all churches, especially feeble ones, to form societies and become workers, active workers, in the vineyard; 'and, as ye water others, so shall ye be watered.'"

ERRATUM. — In the September number, on p. 270, the fifth line should read, "the God of my seed to the last generation," and not "the God of my creed," as it was printed.

WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

RECEIPTS FROM JULY 18 TO AUG. 18, 1876.

MRS. BENJAMIN E. BATES, TREASURER.

| MAINE. | | VERMONT. | |
|---|---------|---|---------|
| <i>West Eden.</i> — Aux., to const. | | <i>Cambridge.</i> — Mrs. Mary E. Turner, with prev. contri. to const. L. M. Mrs. Anne B. Whitcomb, Alexandria, Minn., | \$5 00 |
| L. M. Mrs. Eaton Clark, | \$25 00 | <i>Hardwick.</i> — Cong. S. S., Uduville Fem. Sem., | 50 00 |
| Total, | \$25 00 | <i>New Haven.</i> — L. Saxton Doud, | 2 60 |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE. | | <i>Wells River.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$25 by Mrs. Chloe Brock to const. herself L. M., | 33 50 |
| <i>Amherst.</i> — "Carrier Doves," \$20, for pupil in Ceylon; \$10 for Dakota Home, | \$30 00 | Total, | \$91 10 |
| <i>Bennington.</i> — Mrs. A. M. Holmes, | 5 00 | | |
| Total, | \$35 00 | | |

MASSACHUSETTS.

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|--|----------|
| <i>Amherst.</i> — 2d Cong. Ch., Aux., | \$5 72 |
| <i>Andover.</i> — Abbott Fem. Sem., cl. of '74, to const. L. M. Miss Eliza L. Grout, | 25 00 |
| <i>Ashland.</i> — "Willing Workers," B. R., | 46 00 |
| <i>Boston.</i> — Park-st. Ch., Mrs. Peter Hobart, jun., \$15; Miss S. Ellen Hobart, \$10, | 25 00 |
| <i>Boston Highlands.</i> — Eliot Ch., Aux., \$10; "Ferguson Circle," \$1; "Eliot Star Circle," 6; "Anderson Circle," \$5; Mission-Circles, for Japan Home, | 22 00 |
| <i>Cambridge.</i> — A friend, | 1 00 |
| <i>Cohasset.</i> — Aux., | 8 00 |
| <i>Danvers.</i> — Maple-st. Ch., Aux., pupil Miss Agnew's sch., | 30 00 |
| <i>Dedham.</i> — "Broad Oak Helpers," | 8 41 |
| <i>Gloucester.</i> — Aux., | 40 00 |
| <i>Jamaica Plain.</i> — "Wide Awakes," towards Amelia C. Gould's sch.'ship at Battalagundu, | 15 00 |
| <i>Lincoln.</i> — "Cheerful Givers," of wh. \$50 to const. L. M.'s Mrs. Mary E. Bachelder, Miss Judith P. Cochrane, Persia, for Japan Home, | 75 00 |
| <i>Melrose.</i> — Young Ladies' M. C., | 14 50 |
| <i>Methuen.</i> — Aux., | 15 00 |
| <i>New Bedford.</i> — 1st Cong. Ch., | 10 00 |
| <i>Newton Centre.</i> — Aux., | 6 00 |
| <i>Salem.</i> — South Ch., Aux., | 75 00 |
| <i>Southboro'.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. M. P. Clifford, | 38 50 |
| <i>Springfield Branch.</i> — Miss H. T. Buckingham, Treas., Longmeadow, Ladies' Sewing-Circle, \$2; Chicopee, 3d Ch., "Busy Bees," \$51.89, | 53 89 |
| <i>Topsfield.</i> — Aux., Japan Home, | 30 00 |
| <i>Wareham.</i> — "Merry Gleaners," pupil, Uduville, | 30 00 |
| <i>Waverley.</i> — Aux., | 8 35 |
| <i>Winchester.</i> — Aux., | 50 00 |
| <i>Wrentham.</i> — Three S. S. cl's, | 10 50 |
| Total, | \$642 87 |

CONNECTICUT.

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| <i>Eastern State Branch.</i> — Mrs. J. C. Learned, Treas., Norwich, Park Ch., of wh. \$100 by Mrs. Harriet P. Williams, to const. L. M.'s Mrs. Harriet M. Learned, Mrs. Marie L. Nichols, Mrs. Isabella G. Bourne, No. Stonington, Miss Elizabeth Strong, Auburndale, Mass., \$166.25; New London, 1st Cong. Soc'y (of wh. \$20 for Japan Home, with prev. contri. to const. L. M. Mrs. Charlotte C. Field), \$50; "Schauffler Soc'y," of wh. \$50 to const. | |
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| L. M.'s Miss Anna C. Learned, Miss Cecilia S. Shepard, \$58; Bozrah, of wh. \$100 by Mrs. Fannie Raymond, to const. L. M.'s Mrs. Fannie E. Parke, Mrs. Fannie B. Abell, Mrs. Lillie A. Bailey, Mrs. Lucy S. Bishop, \$116.50, | \$390 75 |
| <i>West Hartford.</i> — Mrs. Edward Selden, | 3 80 |
| Total, | \$394 55 |

NEW YORK.

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|-----------------------------|---------|
| <i>Binghamton.</i> — Aux., | \$7 50 |
| <i>Spencerport.</i> — Aux., | 30 00 |
| Total, | \$37 50 |

NEW JERSEY.

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|--|---------|
| <i>Woodbridge.</i> — Woman's Miss'y Soc'y, | \$36 00 |
| Total, | \$36 00 |

PENNSYLVANIA.

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|---------------------------------|-------|
| <i>Warren.</i> — "Baby Robert," | \$ 50 |
| Total, | \$ 50 |

VIRGINIA.

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|---|--------|
| <i>Poplar Mount.</i> — Mrs. Mary Bingham, \$1; Etta, .20; Emma, .20; Eva, .15; Jenny, .5; Feddy, .10, | \$1 70 |
| Total, | \$1 70 |

ILLINOIS.

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|---|--------|
| <i>Wheaton.</i> — Mrs. W. R. Gould, Japan Home, | \$5 00 |
| Total, | \$5 00 |

WISCONSIN.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| <i>Oakfield.</i> — Two ladies, | \$2 00 |
| <i>Ripon.</i> — Rev. F. B. Doe, | 2 50 |
| Total, | \$4 50 |

IOWA.

| | |
|---|--------|
| <i>Maquoketa.</i> — Birthday gift from an old friend, | \$5 00 |
| Total, | \$5 00 |

FOREIGN LANDS.

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|-------------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Turkey.</i> — Mrs. R. M. Cole, | \$1 00 |
| <i>Erzroom.</i> — E. F. M. Cousins, | 9 82 |
| Total, | \$10 82 |
| General Funds, | \$1,289 54 |
| "Life and Light," | 325 53 |
| "Weekly Pledge," | 2 80 |
| Leaflets, | 1 20 |
| Total, | \$1,619 07 |

"The Old Lady's Offering is received."

MISS EMMA CARRUTH, *Asst. Treas.*

Department of the Interior.

JAPAN.

THE OPENING WORK IN KIOTO.

[These extracts were taken from a letter written by Miss Starkweather to the ladies of Canton, Ill.]

KIOTO, May 10, 1874.

KIOTO was only opened as a mission-station last October, and, being the old inland capital of some five hundred thousand inhabitants, is a great centre of influence. It is distinguished for its temples and grand old walls, and has long been known as a religious centre. We rarely walk out, without meeting one or more priests with shorn heads and crepe robes. And, after service sabbath morning, we quite often see a company of four or five, looking curiously through the wide gate, either wondering, as I suppose, what this new religion has to bring, or trying to pick up a few crumbs ; for as yet preaching is allowed only in the houses of the missionaries. By removing the sliding-doors and partitions, we have already accommodated a hundred, and can make room for more as they gather eagerly every sabbath. Rev. Mr. Doane also has preaching every sabbath morning, and Japanese prayer-meeting in the evening, at his house in another section of the city. Mr. Neesima, the Joseph of his people, has a service in the afternoon. You do not know how delightful it seemed last sabbath to hear them singing in Japanese, "To-day the Saviour calls." Quite a number of the dear familiar hymns have already been translated, and others, composed in Japanese, set to the precious home tunes. "Jesus loves me" is an especial favorite ; and I am happy in being able to assist in leading the hymns to which they are so unused. The choicest hymn in the collection was written by Tok San, a member of the Samurai class, now reduced in fortune, and a servant in Rev. Mr. Davis's family.

I have secured Mr. Neesima as teacher, and began daily lessons May 2. The first word I learned in Japanese was *armgota*, or "thank you," which we said to the little children who brought us their little hands full of shells on the beach of Yeddo on our first arrival. How we longed to be able to tell them the dear "old, old story" then and there!

I have been quite happy to be of some use immediately in an unexpected way. Since Mr. Davis has been ill, his Bible-class meeting at the house, and now studying the Acts, were allowed to read in English to me, and interpret in Japanese to those who could not understand. They are a most interesting class, many of them earnest Christians. We always begin with prayer ; and I cannot describe my feelings, when, calling upon one most constant in attendance, he replied, "I cannot pray:" and I trust that you will join in praying that he may soon be taught by the Spirit. One dear girl in Ohio asks me to tell her of some one in particular, and here is a most interesting case for her.

Our annual mission meeting is to be held at Osaka, the 24th inst., and is looked forward to with much interest. With a population of five hundred thousand souls, and the large heathen processions one often meets, we cannot fail to realize that the field is large, and nothing but the Spirit of God can sanctify the means used to dispel the prejudice and opposition which exist in this religious stronghold. One cannot wonder that the name of "Jesu" arouses feelings of hatred in some minds, when we recall that the Catholics who used that name three hundred years ago have caused three thousand temples on these very surrounding hills to be burned. Permission for us all to remain in Kioto has not yet been obtained; but we trust it will be. I have already two scholars, and rejoice, that, while acquiring the language, I can do something to lend an influence in favor of Christianity.

Sabbath afternoon I sat upon the porch. Two bright boys were there before me, looking eagerly in, and bowed most graciously. I soon interested them with an illustrated Bible History. The Japanese are especially attracted by pictures. I only wish I had more to point them, as no tongue can, to the Lamb of God. People passing would stop in the street, and smilingly manifest their pleasure in the pictured scenes.

CENTRAL TURKEY.

EXTRACT FROM MISS SPENCER'S LETTER.

MARASH, June 18, 1876.

I SUPPOSE you know that "we two" are keeping house as cosily as possible. So, with Mrs. Coffing, good teacher Turvanda, our eighteen girls, and innumerable other blessings, my sky is very

bright; its only cloud being the unlearned part of the Turkish language. But, though it seems rather large, it does not keep away the sunshine, and I have the satisfaction of seeing it slowly but surely disappearing below the horizon.

I find my connection with the Third Church both pleasant and profitable. Pleasant because I love the people. Their bright smiles and hearty "welcomes" as I go among them make me stronger for what is to come. Profitable, because it gives me an opportunity for learning both people and language more effectually than in any other way.

You have learned from Mrs. Coffing's Report, of how glad our hearts have been this winter, because of the precious work of grace among us. We are glad to note its results in the increased earnestness of pastors, larger congregations, better attention, and, better than all, the precious souls gathered into the fold.

We have just organized a committee of women in our Third Church, similar to that in Mrs. Coffing's church. She says, according to her experience, if I get them into working-order in a year, I may consider myself fortunate: so I have laid up a good store of patience.

RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT IN AINTAB.

BY MISS SHATTUCK.

THE peculiar activity among the Armenians and Protestants has been increasing, and is a very noticeable matter these days, being partly political and partly religious in its nature. The Armenians are trying in every way to induce the Protestants to turn back to the old church; sometimes offering pecuniary help to those in debt, or out of work, sometimes threatening to turn them out of employment, sometimes begging, for relation's or friendship's sake, "Come, even if you do not change your belief." The Protestants have usually stood firm, telling them to show them their error from God's word, and they will accept truth. When too weak to argue themselves, they have invited two or three from each side to meet for discussion in their presence. This proposition is often refused; for the discussions they have had have been utter failures on the part of the Armenians, they being very ignorant of the Bible.

In some cases a Protestant has been forced to the old church by

a party who surrounded his door on sabbath morning, and led him along to their church. One went thus to the door, knowing he must either do so, or fight them; then, watching a favorable moment, he left them, and ran all the way to our church. One boy was shamefully beaten by his father and brother for attendance at our church, although it had been his habit for several months past. He ran from them bare-headed, and in his stockings, through the streets, to the house of another brother, who is a Protestant.

The young men have formed a band for the regular weekly study of the Scriptures, taking up those subjects most used by the people as showing the differences of the two sects. They pray and study the Bible solely. Two hundred men from the two churches have been appointed to visit every family of the Protestant community within two weeks, and see where they stand, and try to awaken a new interest in them. Last week we did a similar thing among the women, fearing they would not be reached by the visitations of the brethren in all cases. Miss Proctor with Pastor Krikore appointed some for the Second Church. Pastor Haratoon and I last Sunday met about thirty of our women, whom we sent out, two by two, first to visit every female church-member and see if she is in constant attendance at church; to get more out to the Wednesday ladies' prayer-meeting; also to see if the church-members read or listen to some portion of the Bible daily, praying for themselves, their families and friends out of Christ, expecting their conversion; in fact, to see if they are living up to the vows they took on entering the church. We hope good will come from it. They seemed deeply affected last Sunday. Their prayers were earnest, and full of pleading for the Spirit's guidance and blessing. We, of course, select for this work the most earnest Christian women.

CHINA.

A WORD FROM KALGAN.

WE are rejoiced to read of the many precious revivals in the home churches, and hope you are all sharing in the blessing. We hope, also, to share in it, both directly and indirectly. I read of a revival in a church in New Jersey with which I am acquainted: a large addition was received to the church. I also read in the "Foreign Missionary" the acknowledgment of a donation from that

church, larger than I have ever known it to give before. I think the increased prayers of the church for us are already being answered. The Holy Spirit is working in the hearts of the missionaries; and we all hope soon to see evidence that he is also moving in the hearts of the heathen.

Mr. and Mrs. Sprague have gone into Mongolia, expecting to remain about two months. They join Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore of the London mission, who have already been a month in Mongolia. We are quite alone now, Mr. Williams being the only missionary here. He starts to-morrow for a little tour, and will visit the city where the teacher lives who was baptized last year. We hear that he is very ill.

The meeting for the women on sabbath afternoon has not grown as I hoped it would. Only two or three times has any one come in from outside; but we have good little meetings with those on our place.

DAKOTA.

SISSETON AGENCY.

JULY 31, Mrs. Curtis writes, "Yesterday, while we were at church, the grasshoppers came; and they have eaten almost every thing up clean. If something is not done at Washington very soon, I do not know what the poor Indians will do. What little wheat and corn they had planted is eaten up, and they have had nothing to eat from the warehouse this summer, as you might say. The Indians here seem to bear their trials with much patience, and say very little. God must have some wise end in view, or he would not let it be so. He knows best what is for their highest good.

"My little interpreter, Cora, is getting along nicely with her studies; and Ella Renville has come to me for some help. Mr. Riggs is here, and giving me lessons in Dakota, which help me with the language very much indeed. With all this, and with my visiting, I shall have my hands full for the next few weeks."

BOGUE STATION.

MISS WHIPPLE writes, under date of July 30, as follows, "The prospects on the frontier are not pleasing. What the end will be only the All-wise One knoweth. But will he not bring from it all,

from the blood-shedding, from the cruelties of war, and all the distress which it brings, honor to his own name? Our Indians seem disaffected; but across the river hostile bands occasionally come. Only a few days since, a party drove away seventy-five horses belonging to friendly Indians.

“We trust we shall not be disturbed, but may be able to continue here.”

Home Department.

THE JOY OF OUR LORD

MRS. W. D. L. LOVE.

[Part of a paper presented at the State Missionary Meeting in Pontiac, Mich., May, 1876.]

THE joy of our Lord was not the beauty of his dwelling-place, though words cannot picture its glories, nor the finite mind measure the bliss he enjoyed in it; but that was not the joy. Nor was it the companionship of the exalted beings, who, with perfect love, sought to do his will. Nor was it the pleasure he might justly feel in view of his own infinite perfections. It was none of these; for he left them all temporarily to win and carry back the one crowning joy, to add new joy to all that was his by birthright. He left this glorious home, this blessed companionship: he covered up his transcendent loveliness, and came—to what? a birthplace in a stable, and, afterward, “not where to lay his head.” He came to the companionship of sinners, of rebels, of those who would not recognize his nature, his claims, or his mission: they scoffed at and rejected him. His divinity was veiled by humanity; and upon his shoulders he bore what divinity alone could bear,—the sins of the whole world. Was it an easy burden for Him who could not look upon the least sin but with abhorrence? We can never estimate its loathsomeness to Infinite Purity. And yet he bore it; and why? That he might seek and save that which was lost, and bring it back with rejoicing; that having redeemed us from the enemy, having broken the power of sin, having borne in his own body the penalty of our transgressions, he might present us faultless before his Father with exceeding joy.

We might well doubt whether the result would justify the expenditure ; but the Word says, “ He shall see of the travail of his soul, and be satisfied.” He shall win the great joy, and wear it eternally, — the joy of saving souls. Creation cost its Maker but the word ; redemption was won only through the bitter pangs of agony and labor ; but the bringing into life sons and daughters unto God shall fill the Saviour’s soul with joy and triumph, even to a perfect satisfaction.

It is this highest joy that he brings here, and offers to us, — the joy of winning souls. Do we realize the exalted privilege to which the Lord calls us? Can we fathom the love that would raise us to a companionship in work and sufferings, if need be, that we may also be partakers in his exceeding great joy? The crown is over our heads ; but we see it not. We are playing with the straws at our feet, like poor idiotic children, only that they are without sin, and we, when thus negligent, are not. We ought to look up, not only to see and win the crown, but much more to catch the eye of the loving Master, and be guided by it to do in all things his will.

The work of the Lord languishes both at home and abroad ; but it is through no want of means or opportunities. The church of God is thoroughly furnished with capital, with talent, with educated, disciplined powers ; and a world is lying at its feet, begging to be lifted up, and carried to the Saviour. But we do not realize the situation. We call ourselves Christians, and rejoice in the great superiority our religion has conferred upon us. We think ourselves the chosen of the Lord, and these privileges are our birthright ; but it is not so. We may be the early fruits of salvation, God’s older children of the human race ; but the little ones are hungry, calling to us for the bread of life which the Father has left with us, saying, “ Give ye them to eat.” If they perish for lack of it, are we not guilty of our brother’s blood? Yea, verily, unless we have consecrated ourselves to this doing of God’s work, whenever and wherever, and as fully as, he gives the opportunity. It is not to give what we do not feel, it is not to give grudgingly ; but it is continued living upon the principle that we are not our own. Ourselves and all that we have are his ; and the only question is, How and where can we do the most? It is right to enjoy our beautiful homes, our comfortable clothing, our dear friends, our opportunities for growth and culture ; but, when these come between us and the work of winning souls, they become a curse.

The greater is sacrificed to the less ; and this cannot be without terrible loss both to ourselves and others.

The Lord would save us from this. He would have us come up higher, and join him in the work for which he laid aside home, glory, and companionship, that he might gird himself for the conflict, that he might minister as a servant to the lowliest. Have we been baptized with this spirit? Have we entered into this work?

Or do some of us tremblingly say, " There is so little we can do, the little will not be missed " ? It most certainly will be missed. The little is needed in its place, as much as the greater wherever that belongs. Some stand as polished pillars in God's temple, bearing up a burden that would crush us; some are as lively stones, written all over with his praise; some are beautiful ornaments, carved by his own hand with the chisel of sharp suffering; some are strong nails driven in sure places; and some of us, it may be, are only the bits of clay which unite in compacting the whole: but one is needed just as much as the other, and will be as thoroughly appreciated and rewarded. The owner of the two talents received his " Well done, good and faithful servant " as heartily and as fully as he that had five. But we none of us realize the amount of power lying buried in the napkins of pride, slothfulness, and indifference, which ought to be bringing in a revenue for God. The church is able to go out now and conquer the world; and it will, when each individual, entering into the spirit of the Master, shall believe that winning souls is life's highest, noblest work, and when each shall make every thing subservient, tributary, to this one end.

The Lord hath promised that no one leaving father or mother, brother or sister, houses or lands, for his sake and the gospel's, but shall receive of the same, even in this life, a hundred-fold with persecutions, and, in the world to come, eternal life. He has no pleasure in our suffering and self-denial, in themselves considered; but the greatness of the work made it for the time being pre-eminent with him. Suffering and sacrifice were nothing, that it might be accomplished, and it must be so with us. But as he will go back to a brighter heaven, to more exalted companionship, to new and more glorious manifestations of himself than creation alone could have developed, so we shall find, that by drinking of his spirit, and treading in his path, any thing becomes a joy, if it aid in the accomplishment of his work; and in the end, ah! who can tell the glory that shall be revealed to us, and through us, and for us?

MISSIONARY MEETING IN OHIO.

THE Annual Meeting of the Ohio Branch of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior was pervaded by a spirit of more than ordinary love and zeal for the cause of missions; and a ready response was given to the motives presented for renewed effort and fresh consecration. In devotion to business, in the discussion of practical subjects brought forward during a day and a half, the ruling thought was, onward!

Among the topics brought forward were the reflex influence of the missionary work, the need of greater diffusion of missionary intelligence, the benefits arising from united labor and the free interchange of ideas and plans, the difficulties and obstacles encountered, and the necessity of individual effort.

Abundant testimony was given to the happy effect of this work of Christ upon those engaged in it, in awakening the soul to a livelier appreciation of the privilege of Christian labor, and in drawing it nearer to the Saviour, by promoting a spirit of prayer and of simple trust in his promise.

Among the obstacles to the furtherance of this cause among the churches were mentioned the prevailing ignorance of its worth, its magnitude, and its demands upon us. More definite views are needed of the pitiful condition of women without the gospel, and such knowledge of the results already attained through God's blessing upon the work as shall stir the heart to a sense of personal responsibility.

As an obvious and sure means of meeting this need, it was suggested that not only the circulation of missionary intelligence by means of society reports, magazines, and letters from different fields, was required, but the use of such personal influence and conversation as shall induce people to read them, both in the larger societies and in village and country; for there are discouragements peculiar to each place. In the city there is so little leisure, so many objects already claim attention, that it is difficult to obtain a foothold for one apparently far off, perhaps but vaguely apprehended. Among the scattered homes of the country, if more leisure obtains, there are other and more material hinderances. Instead of walking a few blocks on pleasant streets, and, at the close of the hour, returning to other duties, the sister in the more retired place must ride two or three miles, and often be absent from home a large part of the day. Or, again, after every effort has been

made to leave the cares of her household, some unexpected obstacle arises, and she fails to go at all. The greater freedom enjoyed in the country from social demands implies the want of that quickening impulse derived from frequent contact of mind. To enlist all Christian women in this service is to be our key-note.

A feeble church will find in such work an element of life and power, and a sure pledge of spiritual growth. The benefit to any church is not to be measured chiefly by the amount of money contributed, but by its sure effect upon the heart and life.

Such were some of the thoughts which aroused those present to a fresh inspiration in this grand work. By contact of heart with heart, interest was deepened, faith increased, and new courage for work imparted. Even the recital of discouragements, of long toil with small results, had its lesson; for it is the patient continuance in well-doing that wins permanent success. "In due season ye shall reap, if ye faint not."

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Eighth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Board of Missions will be held in Chicago, Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 1 and 2. All the auxiliary societies are invited to send delegates; but even those expecting to be thus represented are requested to send written reports to their State Secretaries in good time, and copies of the same to the Secretary in Chicago, so that a complete report of the work in the several States may be presented. The State Secretaries, and other officers of the branches, are cordially urged to be present to aid in planning the work for the year.

A HELPFUL BOOK.

DOUBTLESS many of our earnest workers often share with us the longing for something new, some fresh, inspiring thought that they may first enjoy themselves, and then impart to others. To all such we heartily recommend Dr. Ellinwood's "Great Conquest," which we have thoroughly enjoyed. It is made up of thirty-one short, pithy little articles on missionary topics, just such as workers need for information, and to meet objections which we all have to encounter continually. It will be sufficient recommendation to mention a few of these topics. "The Cost of Missions," "Foreign Missions Essential to the Life of the Church," "Buddhism in its

Practical Relations to Christian Missions," "Mohammedanism and Christian Missions," "Specific Objections to Christian Missions." The style is vigorous, the thought clear, and the tone of the book inspiring. It may be obtained of the secretaries of the Presbyterian Board, 23 Centre Street, New York City. Price sixty cents.

CENTENNIAL CIRCULARS.

WE wish to remind our friends who received these circulars, that our centennial fund ought to be completed before the close of our year, Oct. 15. Will those interested in the health retreat at Mardin, the Christian newspaper in Japan, and the education of missionary children, make a special effort, during the few days that remain, to gather up as many stray dollars as possible, and send them before that time? The sums necessary for these objects are still far from complete.

STATE ANNUAL MEETINGS.

WOMAN'S Missionary Meetings will be held, in connection with the meetings of the State Conventions, during the months of September and October as follows : Wisconsin, at Oshkosh, Thursday, Sept. 28; Minnesota, at Austin, Thursday, Oct. 12; Missouri, at St. Joseph, Thursday, Oct. 19; Dakota, at Yankton, Thursday, Oct. 19; Colorado (place not known), Thursday, Oct. 26; Nebraska, Kearney, Thursday, Oct. 26.

ARRIVALS.

THE friends of Mrs. Mumford and Miss Maltbie of the European Turkey mission will be glad to hear that they arrived safely in New York, Aug. 15, on board the "City of Chester."

RECEIPTS OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS
OF THE INTERIOR.

FROM JULY 15, TO AUGUST 15, 1876.

MRS. FRANCIS BRADLEY, TREASURER.

| OHIO. | | |
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| <i>Belpre.</i> — "Ladies of Marietta Conference" for Health Retreat near Mardin, | | <i>Elyria.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Maltbie, \$82 00 |
| | | <i>Fitchville.</i> — "Ladies of 1st Cong. Ch.," centennial offerings, 4 50 |
| | \$48 00 | <i>Lafayette.</i> — Aux., 6 00 |

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| <i>Lyme.</i> — Aux., | \$3 50 |
| <i>Painesville.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Parsons, | 100 00 |
| <i>Rochester.</i> — "A few ladies," | 5 50 |
| <i>Rockport.</i> — Aux., | 6 00 |
| <i>Sheffield.</i> — Aux., | 10 00 |
| Total, | \$265 50 |

INDIANA.

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| <i>Angola.</i> — Aux., | \$1 00 |
| Total, | \$4 00 |

MICHIGAN.

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| <i>Almont.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$10 is a centennial gift for Health Retreat near Mardin, remainder for Miss Pinkerton's salary, | \$18 00 |
| <i>Alpena.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Pinkerton, | 50 00 |
| <i>Benzonia.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Spencer, | 19 00 |
| <i>Coral.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Spencer, | 7 00 |
| <i>Kalamazoo.</i> — Aux., for Mrs. Coffing's ass't, | 10 00 |
| <i>Port Huron.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Pinkerton, | 7 90 |
| <i>Raisinville.</i> — Aux., | 5 00 |
| <i>Romeo.</i> — Aux., centennial offerings for salary of Miss Pinkerton, | 26 00 |
| <i>St. John's.</i> — Aux., for Health Retreat near Mardin, | 10 00 |
| <i>Utica.</i> — Aux., for pupil at Erzsroom, and, with prev. cont., to const. Mrs. Sarah Summers L.M., | 20 00 |
| Total, | \$172 90 |

ILLINOIS.

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| <i>Blue Island.</i> — Aux., | \$6 60 |
| <i>Chicago.</i> — 1st Ch., Aux., of wh. \$10 from Mrs. Emma Goodrich to complete her own L.M. ship, \$28.57; New-Eng. Ch. Aux., for salary of Miss Chapin, \$41.97; Plymouth Ch. Aux., of wh. \$5 are centennial offerings, \$10, | 110 54 |
| <i>Elgin.</i> — Children's Miss. Soc., for Miss Starkweather and Miss Dudley, | 50 00 |
| <i>Fremont.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$10 is for Health Retreat near Mardin, | 13 25 |
| <i>Galesburg.</i> — 1st Cong. Ch., Aux., of wh. \$10 is for share in centennial work, | 21 33 |
| <i>Geneva.</i> — Aux., | 8 60 |
| <i>Payson.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$10 are centennial offerings, and constituting Mrs. Mary Robbins L.M., | 32 00 |

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| <i>Peru.</i> — Aux., | \$6 14 |
| <i>Rockford Seminary.</i> — Aux., | 52 00 |
| <i>Wheaton.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Dudley, | 17 45 |
| Total, | \$317 91 |

WISCONSIN.

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| <i>Bristol</i> — Aux., centennial offerings, | \$4 00 |
| <i>Clinton.</i> — Aux., | 5 00 |
| <i>Depere.</i> — Aux., | 11 00 |
| <i>Fond du Lac.</i> — Aux., for school at Marash, | 49 50 |
| <i>Genoa Junction.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$3 are centennial offerings, | 8 27 |
| <i>Milwaukee.</i> — Mission Band of Spring-st. Cong. Ch., | 25 00 |
| <i>Waukesha.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$25 const. Miss Helen A. Kent L. M., | 36 00 |
| <i>Wausatosa.</i> — Mrs. J. A. Warren, | 4 00 |
| Total, | \$142 77 |

IOWA.

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| <i>Chester.</i> — Aux., for support of Tenna in Samokov school, | \$12 00 |
| <i>Fairfield.</i> — Aux., | 5 50 |
| <i>Grinnell.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Hillis, \$29; Young Ladies' Miss. Circle, for shares in Health Retreat and Japan newspaper, \$20, | 49 00 |
| <i>Marion</i> — Aux., | 25 00 |
| Total, | \$91 50 |

MINNESOTA.

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| <i>Rose Creek.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$5 is from a friend for the Japan Home, | \$10 00 |
| <i>Winona.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Van Duzee, | 40 00 |
| Total, | \$50 00 |

MISSOURI.

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| <i>Kidder.</i> — Aux., | \$5 00 |
| Total, | \$5 00 |

NEBRASKA.

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| <i>Columbus.</i> — Aux., | \$1 20 |
| Total, | \$1 20 |

COLORADO.

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| <i>Colorado Springs.</i> — Aux., | \$2 55 |
| <i>Denver.</i> — Monument Society, | 7 00 |
| Total, | \$9 55 |
| Total, | \$1,060 33 |

Mr. A. L. RIGGS acknowledges the receipt, by the Dakota Home, of a box of bedding and clothing from Mrs. O. W. Cooley of Glenwood, Io.

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Life and Light for Woman

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



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